

**CLASSIFICATION**      **S-E-C-R-E-T**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

**COUNTRY** East Germany

DATE DISTR. 15 August 1955

**SUBJECT** Exploration of Oil Deposits in  
East Germany

NO. OF PAGES 2 2

**PLACE  
ACQUIRED**

**NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)**

DATE OF INFO.

**SUPPLEMENT TO  
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Martin Lutherplatz in Leipzig C 1, that the success in its country-wide refraction-seism crust in search for petroleum-bearing strata. About three-fourths of the speculative area have been explored. While the former German Reich's geophysical exploration, which was interrupted in 1945, operated with four Mintrop pendulums, the [redacted] with 4 four-channel [redacted] for large-area exploration of geological structural elements and the determination of the end-velocity of the elastic pressure waves after refraction by the different strata. They thus furnish a picture of the underlying strata. 25X1
2. It was stated that, although final geological evaluation of the data (which in former explorations was established on the spot) is still awaited, it has already been possible to detect some 20 new potential petroleum-bearing strata. These strata are mostly found in northern Brandenburg and southern Mecklenburg but partly also in northern Mecklenburg. Any profitable exploitation has so far been handicapped by the small number and the obsolete condition of the available drill rigs. Traces of petroleum were found east of the Gifhorn depression as well as in southern and western Mecklenburg. Due to the lack of [redacted] equipment it has not been possible to follow [redacted] petroleum-bearing strata in a satisfactory degree. New [redacted] yields are expected in the near future in spite of [redacted] automatic drilling makes the striking of oil a matter [redacted] 25X1

Comment: Possibly Gifford, Stadt, Bradenburg, otherwise not further identified by source.

Comment. Not further identified by source. There is a Gifhorn Stadt in Brandenburg

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1. In late April 1955, it was learned at VEB Geophysik, located on 13 Martin Lutherplatz in Leipzig C 1, that the GDR has had considerable success in its country-wide refraction-seismic exploration of the earth's crust in search for petroleum-bearing strata. About three-fourths of the speculative area have been explored. While the former German Reich's geophysical exploration, which was interrupted in 1945, operated with four Mintrop pendulums, the present four working teams are each equipped with 4 four-channel electric apparatuses. This modern equipment designed for large-area exploration combines in one working operation the determination of geological structural elements and the determination of the end-velocity of the elastic pressure waves after refraction by the different strata. They thus furnish a picture of the underlying strata. 25X1
2. It was stated that, although final geological evaluation of the data (which in former explorations was established on the spot) is still awaited, it has already been possible to detect some 20 new potential petroleum-bearing strata. These strata are mostly found in northern Brandenburg and southern Mecklenburg but partly also in northern Mecklenburg. Any profitable exploitation has so far been handicapped by the small number and the obsolete condition of the available drill rigs. Traces of petroleum were found east of the Gifhorn depression as well as in southern and western Mecklenburg. Due to the lack of modern drilling equipment it has not been possible to follow the course of the petroleum-bearing strata in a satisfactory degree. Nevertheless, satisfactory yields are expected in the near future in spite of the fact that unsystematic drilling makes the striking of oil a matter of luck. y 25X1

Geophysik. Not further identified by source. There is a  
Gifhorn Stadt in Brandenburg

25X1

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